



## **Minutes of the Seabrook Island Utility Commission Meeting**

**November 20, 2024**

The meeting was held via Zoom conference call with Zoom link published to the public on the Town's website. The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Ferland at 9:00 AM.

Commissioners Present: Ferland, Buchman, Aaron

Other Present: Tommy West from SIUC Management and Woodward & Curran representative: Brian LaMalfa and Brian Ravens

**A motion by Aaron and seconded by Buchman to accept the minutes of the October 28, 2024 meeting. Motion approved 3-0.**

### **FINANCIAL REPORT October, by Mr. LaMalfa**

Invoices were approved via email.

We remain within normal variation of the budget for the year.

Financial results for October were reviewed. The key October results and YTD financial results follow.

Net income for the month of October was a surplus of \$ 128,349. During the month the Capital charges were \$63,309. After adjusting for Bond/Notes principal payments and capital, October showed a cash surplus of \$61,440.

On a year-to-date basis, net income is \$2,275,306 for the month ending October 2024. After adjustments for Capital purchases and debt principal payments, there is a cash surplus of \$1,543,846.

Available Cash as of July 2024, is \$ 4,504,848.

## **OPERATIONS REPORT October, by Mr. West**

### **SEABROOK WATER RESOURCE FACILITY**

Effluent quality continued to meet permit requirements during the month. The daily average flow was 0.333 million gallons per day (MGD). The maximum daily flow was 0.403 million gallons for the month. The average effluent Total Suspended Solids (TSS) was 3 mg/l, and the average effluent Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) was 6 mg/l, indicating excellent process control.

### **SEABROOK WATER DISTRIBUTION**

SIUC delivered 24,499,303 gallons of water for the month. This accounted for water received for the month from St Johns 91.55%.

Total effluent & deep well pumped to Seabrook golf courses for irrigation was 2,578 million gallons effluent and 26,286 gallons of deep well. Total effluent and deep well pumped to Oak Point golf course was 8498 million gallons effluent and 1030 million gallons deep well.

### **GENERAL ITEMS**

Work is proceeding with the wireless providers to upgrade and repair the coral on top of the water tower. Verizon is awaiting a PO from AT&T. Work now is currently scheduled to start January 6, 2025, with completion scheduled six months after the start.

SIUC contracted with IPS to perform an ARC Flash Study of the facility. This study has concluded, and a final report will be issued as soon as Berkeley Electric provides the requested information which has been requested since the tests were performed and still not received to date.

Pond Expansion: Harper has mobilized and begun the project. Their initial major activities are as follows: site preparation, temporary revision to existing effluent discharge pipe to allow isolation of one half of the detention pond and clearing the perimeter of pond's fence line.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Staffing – 2 Field positions are currently open.

SIUC has scheduled the rehab of pump station #29 to begin the week after Thanksgiving. This pump station provides services for Freshfield, Seafield and MUSC.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**2025 Water Rate:** St. Johns Water Company advised that their water rate from Charleston Water System was increasing 6% for 2025 and therefore our purchase rate was also increasing by 6%. The purchased water represents approximately 50% of our water operating budget. In addition to the purchase rate increase SIUC requires a 1% increase to the 2024 operating budget. These 2 increases represent an aggregate of 5% rate increase in SIUC water rate from \$5.90/1000 to \$6.20/1000 for 2025.

**2025 Sewer Rate:** A review of the actual costs for 2024 and the projected costs for 2025 shows the requirements of a 3% rate increase. Inside rate \$51.70 to \$53.25. Outside rate \$54.10 to \$55.75.

**2025 Operating budget:** A proposed 2025 budget was presented with the above reference rate increases for review.

**A motion was made by Aaron and seconded by Buchman to approve the Proposed 2025 Operating Budget including the new water rate of \$6.20/1000 and the new sewer rate of Inside \$53.25 and outside \$55.75. Motion approved 3-0.**

A review of the sewer impact fees moving forward was presented and discussed. The review indicated that there are approximately 2,000 ERU's that are still available to connect to our system. Our current impact fees are \$7,500. A proposal was made to increase this rate to \$8,400 beginning in 2025.

**A motion was made by Aaron and seconded by Buchman to approve the proposed impact fee to \$8,400 beginning in 2025. Motion approved 3-0.**

**A motion was made by Aaron and seconded by Buchman at 9:45 to adjourn the open meeting. Motion passed; open meeting was adjourned.**

Executive Session was not required.

The December regular meeting is cancelled

The next regular meeting of the Commission is scheduled for January 15, 2025, at 8:30 am via Zoom video conference call.

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Date

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Town Clerk